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6 Are Chosen to Judge Children's Book Festival

Names of the six judges who will choose outstanding children's books for the twenty-second annual New York Herald Tribune Children's Spring Book Festival, May 11 to 18, were announced yesterday by Mrs. Fritz Eichenberg, editor of the Herald Tribune Book Review, and Mrs. Margaret Sherwood Libby, editor of the Book Review's "Books for Boys and Girls."

The judges will select the winning book in each of three age groups and will pick four titles in each group for honorable mention. It is estimated that the competition will consider more than 350 titles from approximately fifty publishers.

Picture Book Class

Books for children four to eight (picture books and those easy to read) will be judged by Mrs. Mary Louise Reid, wife of Ogden R. Reid, president and editor of the Herald Tribune, and Fritz Eichenberg, chairman of the Department of Graphic Arts and Illustration of the Pratt Institute Art School.

Mrs. Reid, a 1946 graduate of Barnard College, is a member of Phi Beta Kappa. She received a Master of Arts degree from Columbia University in 1948. She is a trustee of Barnard College and of the Spence School and member of the board of Reid Hall, Paris, and the Youth Consultation Service, New York. She is a former case worker for the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children in White Plains and served in personnel work for the Central Intelligence Agency.

She is the mother of three children.

Mrs. Eichenberg, the other judge of the picture books, has created wood engravings, photographs and drawings for the works of Dostoevsky, Shakespeare, Swift and others and for many children's books. He came to America from Germany in 1933. His books for children are: "Ape in a Cape: An Alphabet of Odd Animals," and "Dancing in the Moon: Counting Rhymes." He was the contributor of the poster for the 1956 Children's Spring Book Festival.

Books for Eight-Year-Olds

Books for children eight to twelve will be judged by Mrs. Louise Seaman Bechtel, from 1949 to 1956, editor of "Books for Boys and Girls" of the Herald Tribune Book Review, and Lewis S. Gannett, daily book reviewer of the Herald Tribune, who retired in 1956.

Mrs. Bechtel was the first editor of a children's book department in a publishing house, the Macmillan Company. She is a free-lance writer and lecturer and author of the Bowker Memorial Speech, "Books in Search of Children," which went through two pamphlet editions and brought hundreds of letters from all over the country. She has written two books for children, "The Brave Bantam" and "Mr. Peck's Pets."

Mr. Gannett was the daily book reviewer of the Herald Tribune for twenty-eight years. Before that, he had been a reporter on "The World" and was a correspondent in Europe for

"The Survey," American correspondent for "The Manchester Guardian" and for nine years was an associate editor of "The Nation." He is the author of "Sweet Land" and "Cream Hill," and has kept in close touch with children's books for the guidance of his children and grandchildren.

For Older Children

Books for older boys and girls will be judged by Mrs. Ruth Hill Viguers, librarian, editor and author of children's books, and Miss Elizabeth Enright, author of adult short stories and children's books.

Mrs. Viguers, a librarian in the New York Public Library for twelve years, including four years at its Harlem branch on 135th St., also organized the library of a Spanish girls' school in Madrid and directed children's work at the American Library in Paris.

Mrs. Viguers taught in a Chinese library school at Wuchang, and at Simmons College. She collaborated on "A Critical History of Children's Literature" was a co-editor of "Illustrators of Children's Books," and will become editor of "Horn Book Magazine" in July.

Miss Enright, whose married name is Mrs. Robert Gillham, is the author of "Thimble Summer," a children's book that won the 1929 Newbery Medal. Her stories of the Melendy family, also for children, include: "The Saturdays," "Four-Story Mistake," "Then There Were Five," and "Spiderweb for Two." She began as an illustrator, found she enjoyed writing more and published her first book, "Kintu, a Congo Adventure," in 1935. Her most recent children's book, "Gone-Away," was a prize-winner of the 1957 Herald Tribune Children's Spring Book Festival.

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JUDGES FOR CHILDREN'S SPRING BOOK FESTIVAL — Left to right: Mrs. Mary Louise Reid, Lewis S. Gannett and Mrs. Louise Seaman Bechtel, three of the judges who will choose outstanding children's books for the Herald Tribune's festival.



The three other judges for the Herald Tribune Children's Spring Book Festival are, left to right: Mrs. Ruth Hill Viguers, Fritz Eichenberg, Miss Elizabeth Enright.